MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The feasibility of completing the canal was investigated more than once but the question had to be put off owing to the heavy cost involved.

MR. K. S. SEBASTIAN: May I know the approximate cost that has been estimated?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: Rs. 60,000.

MR. K. S. SEBASTIAN: May I know from the Chief Engineer whether that amount is considered heavy when compared with the allotment made in the Budget for the P. W. D.?

MR I. C. CHACKO: It is only for opening three thousand running feet.

MR. DOMINIC JOSEPH (*Vaikom* cum *Kottayam*): May I know whether it was without investigation that the work was started?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: The work was started some 74 years ago and I cannot now tell what all happened then.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI (*Meenachil* cum *Todupuzha*): Is it the idea of the Government to give up the work now?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: No.

Local needs of the Mavelikara and Kunnattur taluks.

123 ***MR. K. KUNJU PANICKAR**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the length of the public roads and village roads and the ryots' roads in the taluks of Mavelikara and Kunnattur and the length of such roads maintained by the Public Works Department as on 1-11-1118:

(*b*) whether the Public Works Department has maintained and repaired the important ryots' road of Eravankara, Mavelikara, either in 1117 or 1118;

(*c*) whether the Public Works Department has done anything to finish the gravelling of the public road from Kayamculam *via* Eruva and Evoor to Muttom, Kartigapally taluk, either in 1117 or in 1118;

(*d*) whether the maintenance work was done by the Public Works Department in the road from Mavelikara to Chunakkara *via* Kurathikad in 1118:

(*e*) whether the Public Works Department has done anything to deepen Pallikal thodu in Mavelikara in 1118;

(*f*) whether the Public Works Department has done anything to construct the sluice in Kothachira, Thazhakkara, Mavelikara, according to the budget provision for 1118; and

(*g*) whether the Public Works Department has constructed the sluice at Pathiyur in the canal leading from Karippuzha to Kayamculam to avoid the loss in Pathiyur punja from the flow of salt water?

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MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) The length of the roads maintained by the P. W. D. is as follows:—

	Metalled roads.	Unmetalled roads.	Village roads.	Cart tracks
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Kunnattur taluk ...	30·2640	45·3750	34·132	38.0
Mavelikara taluk ...	14·3300	50·2640	41·33	34·495

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Yes. First two furlongs of 1st mile were regravelled in 1117.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) No.

(*g*) No. The existing system of putting up of temporary bund with a contribution by Government of Rs. 200 is being continued.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKAR: With reference to answer to part (b) may I know why that important ryots' road is not maintained?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: The ryots have not completed their portion of the work as yet.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKAR: With reference to answer to part (c) may I know when the work referred to has been done?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: That is a village road 5 3/4 miles in length with a grant of Rs. 10 per mile. In fact we have been diverting funds from other village roads and doing gravelling and other works on this road.

Chief Inspector in the Transport Department.

124 ✻ **MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP** (*Ambalapuzha cum Shertala*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is a Chief Inspector in the Transport Department;

(*b*) if so, what are his duties;

(*c*) whether he has to go on circuit to inspect and see if there is overcrowding of more than 50 per cent of the total number of passengers licensed to be carried in the bus; and

(*d*) if the answer to part (c) is in the negative, whether there is any other officer in the department who does the work for the department?

MR. N. RAMAMURTI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Scrutiny and analysis of the returns submitted by the Inspectors conducting surprise inspection in the service lines to detect fraud and other malpractices, supervision of service operations, investigation of accidents, etc.

(*c*) Yes. The Line Inspectors also attend to this.

(*d*) Does not arise in view of answer to part (*c*).

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